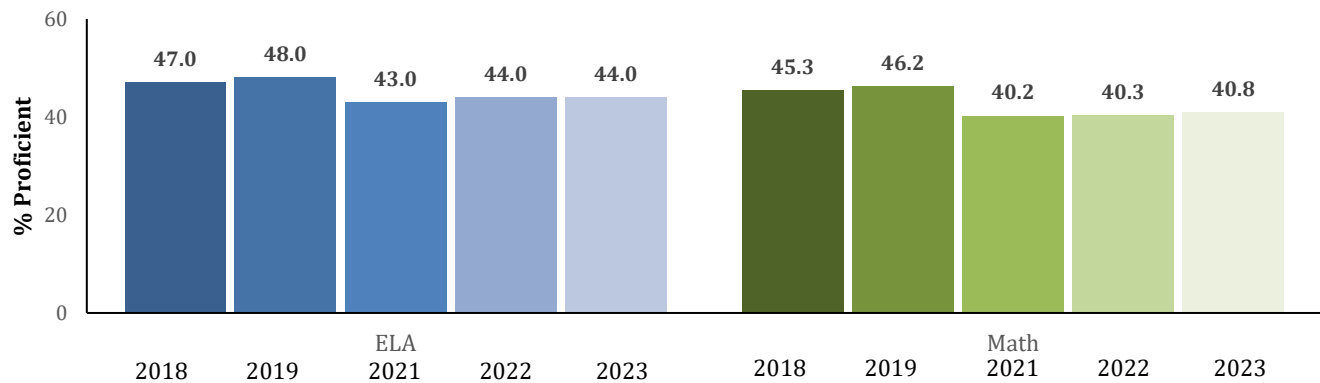# 2023 State Test Score Results:
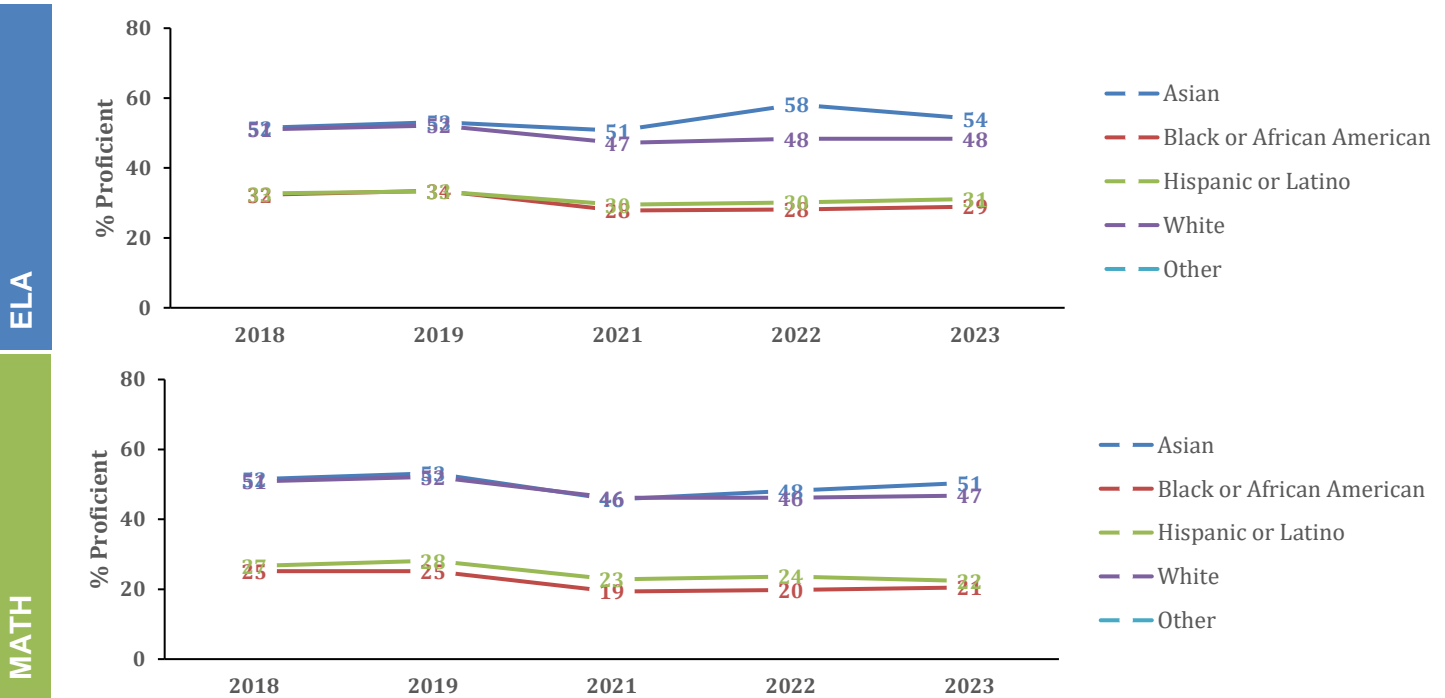# NORTH DAKOTA

STATE HIGHLIGHTS

- **Overall 2023 Results:** North Dakota students have **made small gains in ELA proficiency** following the COVID-19 pandemic, though scores have not surpassed pre-pandemic levels (44.0% in 2023 vs. 48.0% in 2019). In math, proficiency rates have had minimal change following the pandemic, not yet reaching pre-pandemic levels.

- **Results by Race/Ethnicity:** Across all years, North Dakota achievement outcomes reflect variation by race/ethnicity. In 2023, the widest achievement gap appeared for students identifying as Asian and Black or African American, both in ELA (54% vs. 29%) and math (51% vs 21%).

- **Results by District Poverty Level:** ELA and math proficiency results vary by district poverty level across all years. Compared to 2019, the achievement gap in 2023 between districts with the highest and lowest levels of poverty for school-age children has **narrowed in ELA**, though remains largely unchanged in math.
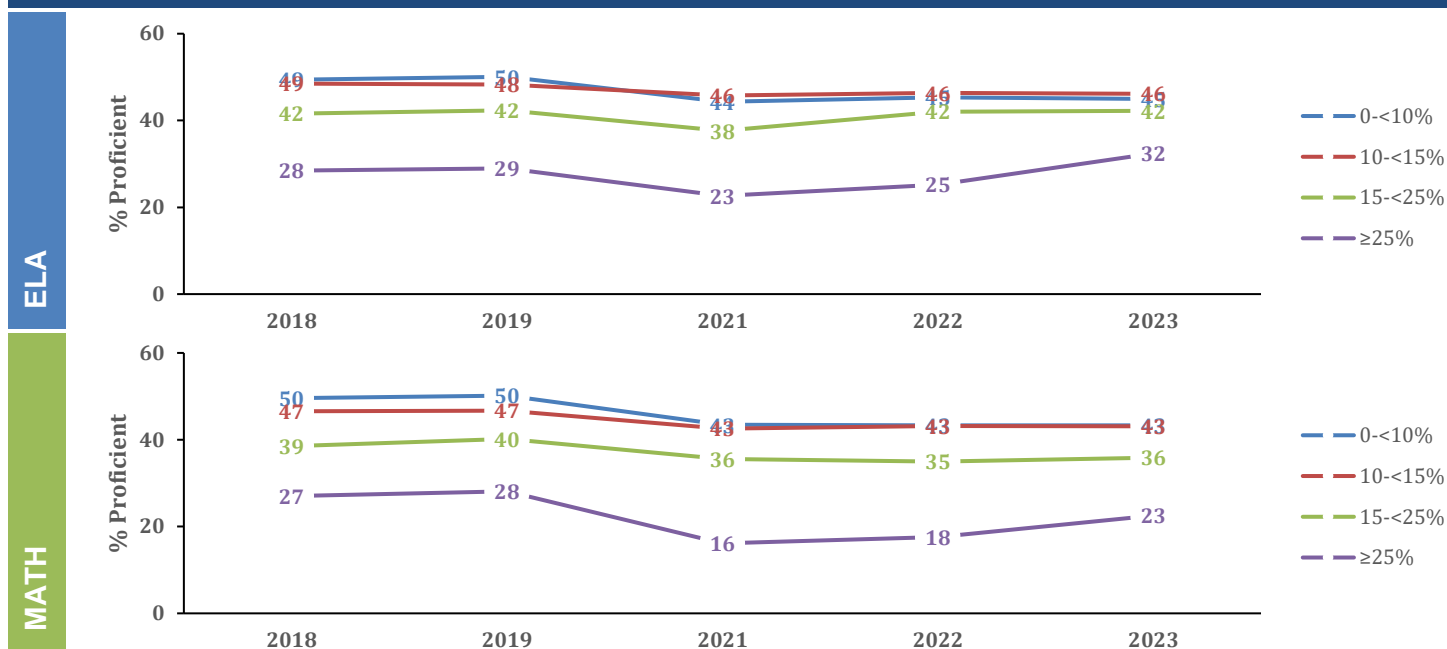
NORTH DAKOTA 2023 ELA & MATH RESULTS, GRADES 3-8

Note. In 2023, 44.0% of students in Gr 3-8 included in the analysis reached proficiency or above in ELA (*n*=31,705/72,058), compared to 40.8% of students who did so in mathematics (*n*=29,423/72,058).

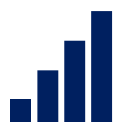## NORTH DAKOTA 2023 PROFICIENCY BY RACE/ETHNICITY, GRADES 3-8

Note. Each student subgroup varies in total students tested each year. In 2023, 54% of students identified as Asian reached ELA proficiency (*n*=778), compared to 29% of students who were Black or African American (*n*=1,463), 31% of students who were Hispanic or Latino (*n*=1,572), and 48% of students who were white (*n*=25,773). Data for additional student subgroups are too small to report. Data labels with similar values may affect visibility.

ELA

% Proficient

	2018	2019	2021	2022	2023
0-<10%	49	50	44	45	46
10-<15%	49	48	44	46	46
15-<25%	42	42	38	42	42
≥25%	28	29	23	25	32

MATH

% Proficient

	2018	2019	2021	2022	2023
0-<10%	50	50	43	43	43
10-<15%	47	47	43	43	43
15-<25%	39	40	36	35	36
≥25%	27	28	16	18	23

Note. School district poverty data are drawn from the 2021 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates program (SAIPE) of the U.S. Census Bureau. Categorizations are based on overall U.S. quartiles. In 2023, 45% of students in ND districts in which less than 10% of school-age children lived in poverty achieved ELA proficiency (*n*=21,088), compared to 46% of students in which 10-15% of school-age children lived in poverty (*n*=6,275), 42% of students in which 15-25% of school-age children lived in poverty (*n*=1,613), and 32% of students in which 25% or more of school-age children lived in poverty (*n*=658). Data labels with similar values may affect visibility.

STATE ASSESSMENT DATA

The student outcome data used in this Data Brief come from the North Dakota State Assessment (NDSA). The data represent outcomes for students in Grades 3–8 in math and ELA.

Measuring Proficiency

The NDSA Grades 3–8 math and ELA assessments include four proficiency levels: *Novice, Partially Proficient, Proficient,* and *Advanced*. In this report, "**proficient**" = the percent of students achieving *Proficient* and *Advanced*. Note that NDSA data include the *range* of students within each proficiency level within each district (e.g., 20-24% of students are *Advanced*; this report uses the midpoints of each range for aggregation purposes).

Years Included in Analysis

This report reflects school years (SY) 2017-18 through 2022-23. Data for SY 2019-20 are not available, as the assessment was not administered due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Participation Rate Data

In Spring 2021, the U.S. Department of Education waived the requirement that 95% of all students complete the state's annual academic assessment, leading to varied participation rates by state. In North Dakota, approximately 96% of students participated in the state ELA and math assessments in 2021. In Spring 2022, districts were again required to measure the achievement of not less than 95% of all students and students in each subgroup on its annual statewide assessments in math and ELA.

Additional Information

More information about the North Dakota State Assessment can be found at https://www.nd.gov/dpi/districtsschools/assessment/ndsa.

ABOUT THE DATA SERIES

*The **State Test Score Results Data Series** explores state-level trends in ELA and math proficiency outcomes on state standardized assessments, both before and after the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, the Data Series presents math and ELA proficiency trends on state assessments between Spring 2018-Spring 2023, as available. Results are presented for the state overall, by race/ethnicity, and by district poverty levels for school-age children.*

Data presented in this State Brief are specific to this state's assessment and are not comparable to other states.

For any questions, please email statetestscoreresults@gmail.com.